

CARDIAC ARREST

State of New Jersey EMD Guidecards Version 8/98

**K
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Is patient alert?

Is patient breathing normally?

If unsure about consciousness, interrogate further:

a. Does the patient respond to you?

Talk to you? Answer questions? Hear you?

b. Does the patient move?

Flinch? Move arms or legs?

c. Are the pupils fixed and dilated?

If unsure about breathing, interrogate further:

a. Have the caller go and see if the chest rises, then come back to the phone.

b. Listen for the sound, frequency and description of breaths.

Agonal respirations are often reported as:

gasping, snoring, or gurgling

barely breathing

moaning weak or heavy

occasional

SIMULTANEOUS ALS/BLS

BLS DISPATCH

**D
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Unconscious/not breathing adequately or at all.

All possible DOA's, until evaluated by responsible personnel.

CARDIAC ARREST

Pre-Arrival Instructions

Go to CPR card for the appropriate age group.
If the patient's condition changes, call me back

Prompts

Agonal respirations are ineffective breaths which occur after cardiac arrest.

Short Report

Age
Sex
Specific location
Chief complaint
Pertinent related symptoms
Medical/Surgical history, if any
Other agencies responding
Any dangers to responding units